

"His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful"

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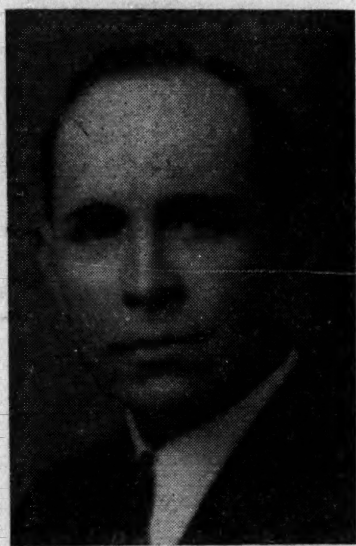
TEXT, Isaiah 9:6: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The Mighty God, The Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace."

From this text I call attention to this statement: "His name shall be called Wonderful." I have thought that sometimes I would go through the Bible and select out of it the names by which the Bible calls Christ and preach a series of sermons on those names. You would be astounded at the number of different names that are used in the Bible. It simply means that Christ is so wonderful in all of His many-sidedness, in all of the beauty and meaning of His work, His person and relationship to human life that God has all but exhausted human language in an effort to find terms in which to express, in the names that are given unto Him in the Word of God, this meaning.

He is called the Redeemer. He is called the Saviour. He is spoken of as the Light of the world—"that true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world." He is called "The Sun of righteousness" that shall "arise with healing in his wings." He is the "Day Star," the "Bright and Morning Star." He is the "Rose of Sharon"—the "Lily of the Valley," the "One altogether lovely," "the fairest among ten thousand," the "Balm of Gilead," the "Great Physician." "His name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor . . . Prince of Peace." He is the "Lamb slain from the foundation of the world." Again He is called, "The fullness of the godhead bodily." He is "The Word." "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God."

All things were made by him; and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life; and the life was the light of men." He is the "Good Shepherd." He is the Christ, the Anointed of God . . . the Messiah, promised to the Jews. He is "Our Passover that was slain." He is the "King of Kings and Lord of Lords."

On and on you could go recounting the names by which He is called in the Scripture. He is the "Seed of the woman" that should bruise the serpent's head. Oh, the matchless Christ—the wonderful Christ, the Saviour of the world. "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for He it is that shall save his people from their sins." No wonder heaven bent low that night, and the multitude of the heavenly host sang, "Glory



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to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." "His name shall be called Wonderful." How I thank God this morning for Jesus Christ! Truly He is wonderful.

I. He was wonderful in His birth. It was no ordinary birth. His birth had been prophesied from the time God came down in the garden of Eden that day—that awful day when sin had entered into the world and Adam and Eve were trying to hide themselves among the trees of the garden in an effort to hide their nakedness from God. In their hopelessness and despair God came walking in the cool of the day calling, "Adam, where art thou?" Then when they must reveal their sin and God must pronounce the curse that comes by sin, God holds out a promise of a redeemer saying, "The seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent's head." In that prophecy there is the promise of the virgin birth of Jesus Christ.

Four thousand years before that event took place God said that He was to be born of a virgin. Then after centuries came and went, the prophets took up the prophecy and again and again pointed to that holy hour, naming the time and the place. For when wicked King Herod would find out where the King should be born, he called the teachers of the Scripture, and they said, "In Bethlehem of Judea." When old Simeon searched the Scriptures he was conscious that the time was drawing near, for God had set the time of that birth as well as the place and the circumstances under which he should be born. Simeon began to pray that he might live to see with his own eyes the king, and when they laid that babe in his arms he said, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace . . . for mine eyes have seen thy salvation."

It was no ordinary birth, but the most wonderful and the most miraculous birth that ever took place from the beginning of the world. For it was the incarnation of the God of the universe in a little babe. It was the result of the overshadowing of the Holy Spirit as He begot in the womb of the virgin Mary, the great God of creation Himself.

I believe with all my heart in the virgin birth of the Son of God. The modern religionist says that it does not make any difference whether

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The Wasting Harvest

A Bible Study Showing That Souls Are As Easy To Win Now, Revivals As Easy to Have As Ever, Despite the Alibis and Unbelief of Indifferent Christians, Powerless Preachers, and Pharisaical Bible Teachers

BY EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

—John 4:35.

"Therefore said he unto them, The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few; pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he would send forth labourers into his harvest."

—Luke 10:2.

There is a wicked, Christ-denying, unbelieving slander abroad in the land. I hear it everywhere I go. It disgusts me, and I believe it nauseates God. It is the lament of powerless preachers. It is the alibi of dry-eyed Christian workers, without passion, without burden, without tears. It is the prattle of premillennial Bible teachers who never have revivals and who rarely win a soul. That slander is this: "Well, it is getting harder to win souls all the time." Or stated another way that slander is: "We can't have great revivals now like Finney, and Moody, and Torrey, and Chapman, and Billy Sunday had." That is a doctrine of the devil. It minimizes the power of the gospel. It pictures God as old and weak, unable to cope with the increasing wickedness of the world. It ties the hands of preachers. It makes prayer seem useless. It closes the door of faith. It belittles the love and grace of God. It would make the gates of Hell prevail against the churches. I say again, it is a doctrine of Satan, a lie, an alibi that the enemy of souls puts in the prating mouths of those who do not pay the price to win sinners.

The trouble is not with the harvest, but with the reapers. Men are lost but they can be saved. Hearts are hard, but they can be broken with the gospel. Sinners are blinded, sinners are enslaved by Satan, sinners are even dead in trespasses and in sins. But Christ has opened blind eyes and released the captives and raised the dead before. Sinners always were lost, always were hardened and blinded and enslaved. The basic facts about sinful men have never changed, and the basic facts about the power of the gospel have never changed. Around the world, in all ages and all lands the harvest has been white and the laborers few. The harvest is white today.

In any local situation where the gospel is continually preached, some people become hardened. But

while some individuals become hardened in sin, grow old and die, their places are continually filled by tender-hearted children and young people ready to hear the gospel. And where one is hardened by hearing the gospel and rejecting it, another is tendered by the death of loved ones or other merciful dealings of God. In any particular community there may be times of sowing and then times of reaping, an ebb and flow of opportunity. That has been true in all ages and it is no different today. But around the world it is continually the same that multitudes of people are ripe for the gospel and could be won by Spirit-filled, impassioned and zealous soul winners. The world is white to the harvest. It always has been and always will be as long as human hearts are what they are and sin is what it is and the gospel is what it is. THERE IS NO TROUBLE WITH THE HARVEST, THE TROUBLE IS WITH THE REAPERS.

Let's say again that the trouble is not with the harvest. The harvest is white. Souls are lost. Conscience still burns and accuses in the hearts of countless sinners. Millions wonder if they will ever see their beloved dead again. The fear of death and Hell and judgment torments many an unconverted sinner. When the gospel seed is sown there is some wayside, there is some stony ground, there is some ground covered with thorns and weeds; but there is still much ground where the seed will bring forth fruit, some thirty, some sixty, and some an hundred-fold. The trouble is not with the grain, it is with the sower. It is not with the harvest, it is with the reapers. The trouble is not with sinners, it is with the saints.

In Second Chronicles 7:14, at the dedication of the temple of

Solomon, the Lord gave a blessed promise of eternal meaning. It is God's way to have a revival, whether among Jews or among Gentiles. The Lord said to Solomon:

"If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."

Notice that the Lord said revivals depend upon "my people," that is, God's people, the saved. God never promised revivals if sinners met any requirement. He promised a revival when the people of God grew humble and prayerful, waiting on God and confessing and forsaking sin. When there is no revival, the trouble is not with the wicked world, it is with the saints of God.

The Scripture says, "Woe to them that are at ease in Zion" (Amos 6:1). The Lord does not pronounce a woe on those that are at ease in the saloon, or at ease in the theater, or at ease in the world. He pronounces a woe upon those who are at ease in the churches.

Let us state it again, and may God burn it into the heart of every reader: The trouble is not with the sinners, but with the saints. The trouble is not with the harvest, but with the reapers.

"Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." And again, "The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few."

Now I am going to prove by the Scriptures that today, in 1941, as in every age of the world, it is the same; that the harvest is white to—

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4 Things God Wants You To Know

I. You Need To Be Saved.

Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. —John 3:3.

For ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. —Romans 3:23.

There is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good, and sinneth not. —Eccles. 7:20.

We are all as an UNCLEAN THING, and all our righteousnesses are as FILTHY RAGS. —Isaiah 64:6.

The heart is deceitful above all things, and DESPERATELY wicked; who can know it? —Jer. 17:9. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way. —Isaiah 53:6.

II. You Cannot Save Yourself.

NOT by works of righteousness which we have done, but ACCORDING TO HIS MERCY, He saved us. —Titus 3:5.

By the works of the law shall NO flesh be justified. —Galatians 2:16.

For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all. —James 2:10.

There is a way which seemeth right unto man, but the end there-

of are the ways of death. —Proverbs 14:12.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way the truth and the life: no man cometh unto the Father but by me. —John 14:6.

III. Jesus Has Already Provided for Your Salvation.

Who (Jesus) His own self bare OUR sins in His own body on the tree, that we being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. —I Peter 2:24.

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God. —I Peter 3:18.

Him (Jesus) who knew no sin (CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

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"His Name Shall Be Called Wonderful"

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you believe in the virgin birth or not. Friend, it does make all the difference in the world. For if He were begotten by an earthly father and had only a natural birth, then we have no Saviour. We have only a beautiful example in a great man—only a beautiful life and martyrdom in the end, with unrealized hopes and ambitions snuffed out by death. If He were not virgin-born, then His bones are rotting somewhere in the tomb in Palestine today. But, thank God, He was the incarnate God Himself—wonderful in His birth.

The most wonderful story ever told is that story of the appearance of the angel Gabriel to that young woman chosen of God, saying, "The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God . . . He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David. And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end."

But I hear a skeptic say, "If a young woman said today that her son was virgin born, would you believe it?" Yes, if—

If the birth of that one had been predicted centuries in advance, I would believe it.

If the place of his birth, the manner of his life and death and burial and resurrection had been predicted centuries in advance, I would believe it.

If he lived a perfect life so that even his enemies could find no fault in him, I would believe it.

If he could walk on the waves; still the tempest; heal the leper; raise the dead; open the eyes of the blind; and read the innermost thoughts of the hearts of men, I would believe it.

If in the hour of his death the sun, moon and stars refused to shine; the earth reeled to and fro like a drunken man; and the dead came forth from their graves, I would believe it.

If all the power of the mighty Roman Empire could not keep his body in the tomb; if he could tear away the bars of death, take up his body and show himself alive for forty days after his resurrection, I would believe it.

If unlearned fishermen could preach the message of his resurrection and see three thousand lives instantaneously transformed, I would believe it.

If belief in and trusting the power of that man's sacrificial death on a cross would cause the thief to steal no more; the murderer to hate no more; the drunkard to drink no more; the moral leper to sin no more; then I would believe it.

If there is dense darkness, terrible sin, gross ignorance wherever the name of that man is not known; and if there is light, and peace and progress, and righteousness where this name is known, I would believe it.

II. *He was wonderful in His life.* The atheists, skeptics, infidels, agnostics and believers alike are of one accord in saying that His was the most wonderful life. And the words that fell from His lips are words such as no man ever spoke, and a life, the story of which is told in such simple grandeur that all exclaim with one accord, "No mortal can with Him compare among the Sons of men. Fairer is he than all the fair that fill the heavenly train."

His was such a life that not a single time did He ever make a mistake. Not one single time did

He utter a word that He had to take back. Never did He have to apologize for anything He said or did. Not even His bitterest enemies, try as they did—and they sought out their shrewdest, and hounded His footsteps day and night trying to trap Him—could find anything of which to accuse Him. But He can challenge them all, "Which of you convinceth me of Sin?" And not a single one is ever, even with their false witnesses, able to convict him of a single sin. Even the one who betrayed Him comes with that blood-money and throws it at the feet of the Sanhedrin and says, "I have betrayed innocent blood." Even the one who sat on the judgment seat and passed sentence on Him said, "I find no fault in him."

III. *He was wonderful in His humility.* So completely had the Son of God emptied Himself of His divinity that not one single time did He exercise the power that was in His own right, but even His ministry and His miracles were preformed by the anointing of the Holy Spirit. So completely had He emptied Himself that Paul said, "Who being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God. But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death."

Oh, the humility of the Son of God who stood on nothing in the beginning and by the word of His power spoke worlds into existence. For God said, "All things were made by Him, and without him was not anything made that was made." The Son of God who upholds all things by the Word of His power, had so humbled himself that He rested on a mother's bosom as a helpless little babe. Then in His manhood, even in His ministry, He has so completely humbled Himself that we hear Him saying to those who follow Him, "Foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." He who was rich became poor that we through His poverty might be rich. The very clothes that He wore were provided by the hands of a little group of women. The food that he ate must be provided by others. He must sleep on the ground or on another man's bed. He was fed from another man's table. He was buried in another man's tomb and wrapped in another man's shroud. O wonderful, wonderful, that the eternal God should stoop so low to become man's Saviour!

IV. *He was wonderful in His compassion.* See Him as He goes about touching humanity. See Him and feel the great throb of His compassionate heart as He sees the multitudes as sheep without a shepherd and is moved with compassion for them.

Watch Him as He goes among suffering, sin-cursed humanity. He is never too tired to forget Himself and minister to the suffering multitude and answer every cry of need. He never sends the multitude away hungry, but takes the loaves and fishes and feeds them until they are all filled.

Never does He come upon a sinner who is tired of sin but that we hear Him saying, "Son, thy sins be forgiven thee." He never comes into a sick room without healing the sick. He never met a leper without making him whole. Never did He meet a blind man without giving him his sight, nor a deaf man without making him to hear. He never entered a death chamber but that He raised the dead to life. He goes out to the cemetery with the sorrowing and with infinite compassion weeps with them and calls forth the dead and gives him back to his loved ones again. Oh, the compassionate Christ!

He never met an adulterer or an adulteress but that He loved them to His own great heart and sent them away clean—their sins are forgiven. The very crowd that even the religious world had cast out and said, "Master, the law says she should be stoned," in the compassion of His heart, even in the court of the temple when an adulterous woman has been dragged out before Him, we hear Him saying, "Where are thine accusers, hath no man condemned thee?" She said, "No man, Lord." And Jesus said unto her, "Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more."

If it is at Jacob's well, as Jesus leans on the well curb, He for-

gets about His own weariness and His compassionate heart reaches out to a nameless woman of sin. When she realizes who He is she leaves her empty water pots to tell the story of divine grace and to bring the whole town to Him of whom she said, "Surely this is the Messiah."

Oh, the compassionate Christ who was not willing that any should perish! "For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life."

V. *He was wonderful in His death.* His was no ordinary birth, nor ordinary life, and no ordinary death. Hear Him as He says, "For this cause came I into the world . . . The Son of man hath the power to lay down His life and the power to take it up again." That death was prophesied from the garden of Eden. That death was portrayed in type in Eden when God took an innocent victim and slew it and spilled its blood and with the skin made a garment to clothe the first sinners. Oh, the Lamb of God that was slain, not only for these in the garden, but the Lamb of God that, from all eternity, had His face set toward Calvary, comes of His own accord to lay down His life. "I have power to lay it down and power to take it up again . . . No man has the power to take it from me."

When they come to arrest Him He steps out and says, "Whom seek ye?" They say, "Jesus of Nazareth." When we hear two words fall from His lips with such majesty and power that those soldiers that have come to arrest Him fall backward on the ground paralyzed and helpless in His presence. Those two words were the words spoken to Moses on Sinai when he said to God, "Whom shall I say hath sent me?" God says, "Tell them I AM hath sent you." And when Jesus, the eternal "I AM," even in His humiliation, speaks those words there is such power that the soldiers of Rome fall on their backs in utter helplessness. No soldier could bind His hands. All the armies of the world could not put handcuffs on those wrists. "The Son of man comes to GIVE His life." He has such power in the tip of His finger that when Peter draws the sword and clashes off the ear of the servant of the High Priest, he can touch that ear and it is healed. But the Son of God stretched out His hands and they placed the handcuffs on Him and led Him like a "lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not his mouth."

He is wonderful as He hangs on that old rugged cross. In that hour of death He is wonderful. See Him as He looks down on the raging mob. We hear such words fall from His lips as we never heard before under such conditions. Listen! It is a prayer—"Father, forgive them for they know not what they do." As He comes to the end He lifts up His majestic head and looks up into the Father's face and there's a shout of victory coming from His soul the like of which never fell on human ears before. It isn't the weak exhausted cry of a dying martyr. It is the shout of a victor. And as He speaks this earth upon which the scene is taking place is shaken by a mighty earthquake, and it rocks and reels on its axis. Rocks are rent and tumble into the valley below as we hear those words, "IT IS FINISHED." The "Seed of woman" has come to redeem. The Lamb of God has bled His life away. Sin has been atoned for. The price of redemption has been paid. The capstone of that great edifice of redemption that God has been erecting has been put into place. The foundation was laid back yonder before man was created. The promise was made in the garden of Eden. The consummation was foreshadowed in every bleeding altar from Abel unto Calvary. It is now finished. That was no ordinary death. It was God Almighty taking upon Himself the sin of a fallen race. The time of that death had been prophesied. Every detail of it had been foretold. It was said that, "He was numbered among the transgressors" and that "He made his grave with the wicked and with the rich." "He was led like a lamb to the slaughter and like a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he opened not His mouth."

The very day was set fifteen hun-

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day. I will prove that it is as easy to win souls today as it ever was. I will prove that it is as easy to have revivals now as in the palmiest days of the great evangelists. I will prove that the trouble is not with the unconverted, but with the people of God. The harvest today is white, but the laborers are few. And I will prove it by Scriptures so plain that they cannot be misunderstood by honest Christians who seek the mind of God, Christians who are willing to confess their sins and lay aside their alibis.

I. In All Bible Times the Harvest Was Ripe: the Only Lack in Having Revivals and Souls Saved Was a Lack of Laborers.

Our dear Saviour, when on earth, once went from Judaea to Galilee.

dred years in advance. That night when the passover lamb was slain in Egypt the date was set upon which the Son of God should die. When the hour approached the Pharisees said, "Not on the day of the passover lest a tumult arise." But God had said fifteen hundred years before that it must be on the passover—the hour when our Passover should be slain—and on the Passover it was. "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world."

His death and atonement for our sins is the blood that is typified in the garden of Eden. It is the blood that was typified in Abel's offering, "Who being dead yet speaketh." It is the blood that was foreshadowed in the night of the Passover on the lintels and door posts of the homes in Egypt. It is the blood without the shedding of which "there is no remission" of sin. It is atoning, redeeming blood. And thank God this morning, I believe with all my heart in the atoning efficacy of the blood of Jesus Christ. I fasten all my hope as a sinner on the blood of Christ, for time and eternity. "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ the solid rock I stand; all other ground is sinking sand." His name shall be called Wonderful. Oh, isn't it wonderful to be a Christian. Isn't it wonderful! Washed in His blood, born of His Spirit, begotten with incorruptible seed, "heirs of God and joint-heirs with Jesus Christ!" Living in that hope of the glory of God that one day we shall be like Him.

VI. He is wonderful in His power.

1. In His power to save. "Come unto me all ye ends of the earth and be saved, for I am God; beside me there is none else." "Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." "Though your sins be as scarlet they shall be as white as snow: though they be like crimson, they shall be as wool." "For the blood of Jesus Christ, His Son, cleanseth us from all sin." It was not possible that the blood of bulls and goats should take away sin, but thank God, He appeared in the end of the age to offer Himself once for all—a sacrifice that would take away sin and remove every stain. It is a wonderful Christ that can reach down in the pit of corruption and lift the sinner up from the miry clay, and wash him white in the fountain filled with blood drawn from Immanuel's veins. He is wonderful in His power to save to the uttermost all that will come to God by Him.

He is wonderful in His power to keep. He's wonderful in His power to "supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." He's wonderful in His power to take human life and make it glorious, wonderful, happy, deep, sweet, and blessed. "I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day."

He is wonderful in His power to transform human lives. He is wonderful in His power to change a human life and put a song in the soul even the praises of God forever more. And that power that raised Him from the dead will one day call our sleeping bodies from the dust, and we shall awake in His likeness, and we shall leave that place where we have rested for

And, "He must needs go through Samaria." Instead of following the easier route along the Jordan River, He went over the hills and through Samaria. There, among these half-breed people, He talked to the Samaritan woman at the well of Sychar, won her to repentance and faith and salvation. Then as she went running away to tell her friends, He said to the disciples, "Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? Behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields: for they are white already to harvest."

The disciples did not recognize the fact that here, in the little town of Sychar, among these rejected and despised people, there was a white harvest for evangelism. Here were many ready to be saved. Here were hearts that were hungry. Here were people that would be easily won to trust in Christ and to everlasting life.

The disciples thought it would be four months yet to harvest time. And spiritually, no doubt, they thought there would be a far better chance to win souls elsewhere. They even wondered in their hearts why Jesus talked to the woman at Samaria. They had gone into the city themselves, to buy food, and no doubt they failed to speak to a single sinner about his soul. We do not suppose that they even mentioned to a single soul that the Messiah Himself, the Son of God, sat outside the city on the curbing of the well! They were not concerned. They cared little for Samaritans and they knew that Samaritans cared little for Jews. So they, idly concerned about their lunch, gave no heed to the dying souls about them. And Jesus said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest."

In proof that Jesus spoke the truth, the one new convert that Jesus won, went running into the city and told of her conversion, so that almost the entire city came out to see Jesus. Many were saved on the woman's testimony, before they ever laid eyes on Jesus; many others were saved as soon as they saw Him. And He stayed two days to win other souls. How ripe was that harvest! But the apostles had neglected it, had been unconcerned about it. They did not believe that the harvest was white and did nothing about it. How like the situation today!

But among the Jews, the same state of affairs obtained as when the disciples were among the Samaritans. In Luke 9:1 to 10 we learn that Jesus sent the twelve apostles forth to preach the gospel, throughout the country, in places whither He Himself would later come. But these twelve apostles could not cover the ground. They could not reach all the hungry hearts and preach the gospel to all the people. So in Luke, chapter 10, we find that:

"After these things the Lord appointed other seventy also, and sent them two and two before His face into every city and place, whither He Himself would come.

"Therefore said He unto

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a while and come forth singing and shouting. The theme of our song will be, "Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? For the sting of death is sin, and the strength of sin is the law, but thanks be unto God who giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

One day He is coming in His glory and all the holy angels with Him and sin shall be destroyed, and he that hath the power of death shall be placed in the bottomless pit and the key turned on him, and the "knowledge of the glory of God shall cover the earth as the waters cover the sea," when He shall come forth from the Father riding upon the white horse, and on his thigh is written, "King of kings and Lord of Lords." "His name shall be called Wonderful." When I think of it my heart wells up in that glorious old song, "All hail the power of Jesus' name, let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all. Let every kindred, every tribe on this terrestrial ball, to Him all majesty ascribe, and crown Him Lord of all."

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them. The harvest truly is great, but the labourers are few: pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that He would send forth labourers into His harvest.

"Go your ways: behold, I send you forth as lambs among wolves."

— Luke 10:1-3.

The fields were just as white and wasting among the Jews as among the Samaritans. The harvest was great, but the laborers were few.

These seventy sent out by the Saviour are unknown to us by name. We do not suppose that any of these seventy workers ever became famous. They were probably new converts. They were not mature, well-trained workers. Jesus said to them, "I send you forth as lambs among wolves." It is as if the Saviour said, "You are all I have. You are not equipped as teachers or preachers or soul winners. You have not been trained. You are not wise, you are not great. But you are all I have. So many souls are dying, the fields are so white, I must send forth all the workers I can get; workers inexperienced, workers untrained, workers with ordinary abilities or less than ordinary. But so many are lost who can't be saved that I will send every person I can get to win them." So these immature and untrained workers went out for the Lord Jesus.

In Samaria the fields were white already to harvest. They only needed somebody who cared enough to win them. A poor fallen woman, who had lived a disgraceful and wasted life, when she was converted, led to a revival that shook the whole town to the salvation of many, many souls.

And so in Judaea the fields were so white that Jesus sent the most inexperienced workers and urged them to "Pray ye the Lord of the harvest to send forth labourers into His harvest."

The condition in Samaria and the condition in Judaea, is the condition that has prevailed all these years around the world. It is as true in America as it was in Samaria and Judaea.

It is as true in 1941 as it was in A. D. 32. There are souls to be won, there are hearts that are hungry, fields are white; but there are not many people who care enough to win souls.

The trouble was not with the harvest then, and the trouble today is not with the harvest. THE TROUBLE WAS WITH THE LABORERS.

Down through the years it has

always been true; the real reason we do not have revivals is that Christians are not ready to bring revivals.

The real reason that we do not win sinners is not that *unconverted sinners* are so hard-hearted, but that Christians are so hard-hearted. Sodom and Gomorrah were burned up with fire and brimstone from the Lord out of Heaven. It is true that they had a wicked, wicked people who deserved destruction. But Sodom and Gomorrah could have been saved. God wanted to save them. Lot, the only Christian man in the town, the one to whom God would properly look for the first steps in a revival, failed God. Lot did not win his own wife, did not win his own daughters, did not win his own sons-in-law, or his own servants. God plainly promised that if there should be ten righteous souls in the city He would not destroy it (Gen. 18:32). But Lot had no influence. When he spoke to his own sons-in-law and his own daughters, "he was as one that mocked to his sons-in-law" (Gen. 19:14). Lot had no influence with the men of the city, with whom he dealt every day. He said to them, "I pray you, brethren, do not so wickedly" (Gen. 19:7). But they despised him, scoffed at him. Lot's compromise with their wickedness left him powerless to win them. When he was led out of the city his own wife turned back to look longingly at the wicked city and was turned to salt. Lot didn't even have influence to save his wife. When he took his two unmarried daughters out to live in a cave, he carried his wine along with him and he did not have enough influence to save his own daughters from incest and ruin. The tragedy about Sodom was the tragedy of Lot, a saved man, who was not busy about the harvest. The harvest was white. There were plenty of people living in Sodom who were hungry hearted, who hated God, people who had distress of mind, remorse of conscience, a fear of death and judgment, as is true in every city in the world. But Lot had no power, no influence. Lot was not a reaper. So Sodom went to Hell.

It is true that the world is dark. How great is that darkness! The world of natural man always has been dark. But no matter how full of darkness a room is, when you turn on plenty of light the darkness is all gone. And Jesus said, "Ye are the light of the world" (Matt. 5:14). If the dying lost world does not have light, it is because Christians have put their lights under bushels. They are not like candles put up on a candle-

stick that giveth light to all that are in the house. Christians are not like a city set on a hill that cannot be hid.

It is true that the world is a poor, corrupt, rotting world of immorality, and wickedness. "The whole world lieth in wickedness" (I John 5:19). That is true now, but it has always been so, just as it was so in New Testament times. But Jesus said to Christians, "Ye are the salt of the earth." The trouble is that the salt has usually lost its savor and is good for nothing but to be trodden under feet. Christians cannot save the world, not because the world is so corrupt, but because Christians do not have enough salt!

Again I say that the problem is not with the world. The gospel is good enough for the world. The power of God is great enough for the world. The grace of God is greater than all the sin of the world. Faith is the victory that overcomes the world. The trouble is not with the harvest. The trouble is with the laborers. "The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few!"

It was a hard and bitter and wicked crowd that gathered on Mount Carmel to face Elijah in the days of Ahab (I Kings, chapter 18). They followed a wicked, idolatrous, murderous queen. They supported four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal. They had murdered the prophets of God and gone over to idolatry. That harvest didn't look white, but it was. All they needed was an Elijah with the power of God upon him, to pray down fire from God and call them to repentance! That success was a success of laborers and not because hearts were any tenderer than in our day.

When Jonah went to Nineveh that vast, mighty city was full of violence and idolatry and sin. They worshipped a fish-god. Because of their wickedness, they were under the wrath of God who threatened to destroy them, yea, and would have destroyed them within forty days, as He destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah. But Nineveh had a Jonah where Sodom and Gomorrah had none. Nineveh had a reaper and Sodom and Gomorrah had no reapers. The harvest, no doubt, was as white in Sodom as it was in Nineveh.

It is worthy of note that it took God longer to get Jonah ready to preach than it took all the great city of Nineveh to repent when once a Spirit-filled preacher came to them with the gospel!

Up and down this land as an evangelist I have found it true over and over again: it is easier to get sinners saved than it is to get Christians to go and win sinners. The problem is not with un-

converted sinners. The real problem is with the saints. The harvest is white. The laborers are few.

II. The Bible Clearly Teaches That This White Harvest Would Continue To the End of the Age.

The condition that prevailed in the time of Christ, and in all Bible times, prevails today. The harvest is as white and great today as it ever was. A faithful reading of the Bible will reveal that soul winning and revivals are possible on an unlimited scale through all the ages, depending only on the reapers, Spirit-filled, wholly surrendered, willing-to-die Christians.

A. Bible promises about soul winning covers the whole age alike. Look at the great commission as given in Matthew 28:19, 20:

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world."

Even a casual reading of this passage shows the following facts: (1) It is primarily a command to win souls, to make disciples. (2) Those who are won should then be baptized and taught to win others. (3) This process of evangelization was to be carried out through all the world, literally in "all nations," or as Mark 16:15 says, "to every creature." (4) Chronologically, this great commission is binding even "unto the end of the world." What is binding to one Christian is binding to all Christians in all ages. The gospel that was good for one nation, is good for all nations. The gospel effective in one age, is effective in any age.

The universality of the great commission indicates that the great fundamental truths of soul winning remain forever the same. Sinners are the same in all ages. God is the same in all ages. The gospel is the same in all ages. If a Pentecost was possible in Jerusalem, then a Pentecost is possible in Chicago, or Dallas, or Wheaton, or any other city or hamlet or country place in the world. I do not refer to incidental manifestations, but to the conversions of many sinners. It was not easy at Pentecost, and it is not easy anywhere else. But the same price paid for victory in one place will bring victory another place.

It is a perversion of Scripture, and it is a doctrine not even hinted at in the Bible, to say that with changing times it becomes harder to win souls and less possible to have revivals.

It is the plaint of modernists, of rationalists, of infidels in pulpit and pew to say that we need a new gospel. They say the old Bible will not stand up in the light of modern science. They say the old satisfy the needs of modern men.

But that is a lie of the devil, a lie of human pride and human unbelief. And the same devil has put in the minds of countless Christians the same kind of a lie when they say that it is harder now to win souls. They are really saying that mankind has gotten beyond the reach of the old gospel, and the old power of New Testament Christianity. Again, I say it is a deadly modernism of the heart. It is born of unbelief. It is a deception of Satan.

Consider the soul winning promise in Psalm 126:5, 6:

"They that sow in tears shall reap in joy."

"He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him."

Does anybody really believe that this blessed divine formula for soul winning is out of date? Does this Scripture leave any room to suppose that those who sow in tears will not reap in joy in 1941, as they did in some centuries B. C.? Does

(CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR)

What Smoking Does To Women

IT:

1. Spoils their breath.
 2. Spoils their complexion.
 3. Spoils their digestion.
 4. Spoils the luster of their eyes.
 5. Spoils the steadiness of their nerves.
 6. Spoils the color of their teeth.
 7. Spoils the appearance of their lips.
 8. Spoils their finger nails.
 9. Spoils their taste.
 10. Spoils their purse.
 11. Spoils their good health.
 12. Spoils their general appearance.
 13. Spoils their queenly modesty.
 14. Spoils their example to youth.
 15. Spoils their high esteem among all good men.
 16. Spoils their moral appraisal.
 17. Spoils their acceptance in good and righteous society.
 18. Spoils their matrimonial acceptability.
 19. Spoils their maternal fitness.
 20. Spoils their spiritual vision.
- "A baby born of a cigarette smoking mother is sick. It is poisoned, and may die within two weeks of birth. The post-mortem shows degeneration of the liver, heart, and other organs. Sixty per cent of all babies born of cigarette smoking mothers die before they are two years old." — C. W. Ruth and Dr. Charles Barber.
- THEREFORE:
- Second Corinthians 7:11: "Having these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God."
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THE WASTING HARVEST

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE)

this Scripture leave any room to doubt that one who goes forth weeping, bearing the Word of God, will fail to come back with sheaves? Will one who sows the same good seed and waters it with just as many tears, have less fruit today than in Bible times? Certainly not!

In Galatians 6:7, 8, we are told:

"Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption; but he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting."

Here is a law of God, the immut-

able, unchanging law of sowing and reaping; of cause and effect, of action and reaction. According to one's sowing, so shall his reaping be. And that is just as true about sowing to the Spirit as it is of sowing to the flesh. God is not mocked in this matter. His law holds good today the same as ever. The same kind of sowing will bring the same kind of reaping today and in all ages. Those who sow the seed will bring back sheaves in proportion to their sowing. To deny this, makes God's Word a lie.

Mark 9:23 says:

"Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth."

Soul winning is a matter of faith. Revivals are as possible to believing faith as ever before. On the same matter Jesus said to His disciples:

"According to your faith be it unto you." — Matthew 9:29.

Space does not allow further discussion, but it is manifest that God made no provision for a change in His plans or in the power of the gospel in soul winning for the last days. The harvest is as white today as in Bible times. Down through the ages this great principle has never changed.

B. Bible prophecies foretell great revivals and multitudes saved in the last days. Instead of a waning and dwindling of soul-winning work in these last days, the Bible clearly teaches that great revivals will not only be possible, but that they will actually take place, and that great multitudes of sinners will be saved in the very closing days of the age.

The greatest revival of the world has not yet happened. The revival on Mount Carmel when thousands of the people of Israel fell on their faces and cried out, "The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God" — that was wonderful — but a greater one yet is coming.

The revival when John the Baptist preached by the River Jordan, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand," and when the people of Jerusalem and all Judaea went to him at the Jordan river and were baptized, confessing their sins — that marvelous revival where Jesus appeared and was publicly announced as the Lamb of God, was not the world's greatest revival. A greater is yet to come.

At Pentecost and the days that followed, when three thousand were saved in a day, and when later multitudes, both of men and women found the Lord — that revival was marvelous beyond expression. How my heart leaps at the thought of it! Oh, may God give us the like again! Yet that was not the world's greatest revival. The greatest is yet to be.

Not the revivals of Wesley nor of Whitfield nor of Spurgeon nor of Moody nor of Finney nor of Torrey nor of Chapman nor of Billy Sunday, no, but a greater revival yet is to come. This revival is discussed in Joel 2:28-32. Peter quoted that Scripture at Pentecost, in Acts 2:16-21, when he said:

"But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"17. And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your old men shall dream dreams:

"18. And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

"19. And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

"20. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.

"21. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Note that the revival promised is to be "in the last days." And what Peter meant was not simply that at Pentecost this Scripture was fulfilled. No, when Peter said, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel," he simply meant that the last days had begun, and that the power of the Holy Spirit which was poured out at Pentecost was the same power

that would come later, as prophesied by the prophet Joel.

I remember how my heart burned within me when once, as I heard dear Dr. H. A. Ironside, this Scripture became clear to me, and I saw from the second chapter of Joel that the greatest revival the world should ever see is yet in the future. Read this Old Testament passage and you will see that it is to be fulfilled literally and fully, after the return of Christ when all Israel is brought back to Palestine and there converted. That is the revival mentioned in Deuteronomy 30:1-6 when God will circumcise the hearts of Israel and He will be their God and they will be His people. That is the revival mentioned in Zechariah 12:10 when all inhabitants of the land shall mourn over their sins. It is a revival when the fountain shall be opened to the house of David and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem for sin and uncleanness as pictured in Zechariah 13:1. Romans 11:25, 26, tells of the same blessed revival: "Blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles be come in. And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob."

Ah, "All Israel shall be saved!" That is the time sung of by our fathers, when a nation shall be saved in a day! What happened at Pentecost was only a foretaste, only a type, only a slight beginning of the marvelous time to come. Then it will be true that God will literally pour out His Holy Spirit upon all flesh, not upon Jesus only. Then young men shall see visions and old men shall dream dreams, then on servants and handmaids God will pour out His Spirit and they shall prophesy. And whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved. That will be the world's greatest revival. It will be greater in the number saved. It will be greater in the manifestation of the power of God. And that revival will be brought about by the same gospel as we use today. The greatest revival is yet to come.

It is silly to believe that God has abandoned revivals. It is unbelief and an alibi to say that many cannot be saved in the last days. God's greatest revivals will come "in the last days," according to the Scripture.

But we need not wait for the return of Christ to reign and the regathering of the Jews, to see marvelous revivals. We who believe in the premillennial coming of Christ often speak of the great tribulation time pictured in the Bible, that time of trouble which seems so near. But very few seem to remember that in the dark and troublous times soon to appear on the earth, millions of people will be saved. The great tribulation time will be one of the greatest times of soul winning that the world ever saw.

This is made clear by the plain statement of the Scriptures in Revelation 7:9, 10, 13, 14, which says:

After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;

"And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb."

"And one of the elders answered, saying unto me, What are these which are arrayed in white robes? and whence came they?"

"And I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest. And he said to me, These are they which came out of the great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."

John, to whom was revealed as in a trance or vision the future events of the great tribulation time, saw a multitude so great that literally it could not be counted, a multitude "of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues." Who were these saints whom John saw ahead of time as entering Heaven and praising God? One of the elders explained to John that "These are they which came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes, and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." John saw it long ago. It

has not yet come to pass. But in the great tribulation time there will be a multitude saved, not Jews principally, though there will be, the same chapter tells us, one hundred and forty-four thousand Jews of all tribes, saved. This multitude will be of every nation on earth, of every kindred, of every people, and of every tongue, and this innumerable multitude will be saved in the short and terrible three and one-half years of the great tribulation.

In the tribulation time every saved person will have been caught away at the rapture. Yet there will be remaining some who have heard the gospel. There will be Bibles. The Holy Spirit of God will bring conviction and some will be saved. Then these will go out to win others and there will be a mighty revival, leading to the conversion of an innumerable multitude of souls. Literally millions of people, no doubt, will be saved in the tribulation time, in all the nations. Preachers and Bible teachers often leave the impression that none will be saved in the great tribulation time, or very few, but they are certainly mistaken. The gospel will be preached by a Jewish remnant, preached by the two witnesses of Revelation, chapter 11, preached by an angel of God (Rev. 14:6, 7), and preached by new converts. It will be preached under difficulties, with Christians being beheaded, with Jews murdered on every hand. But the gospel will be preached, and God will honor it and souls will be saved.

How unscriptural it is to suppose that in these last days God does not plan to have great revivals! God loves sinners, God wants them saved, and God has not changed His plans. Revivals are possible, and it is as easy to win a soul now as it ever was.

But again, prophecies of the Bible show that soul-winning is as much the very heart of the will of God now as ever before. In fact, the Scripture tells us that the one thing that delays the coming of our Saviour is His eagerness to have others saved.

In Second Peter 3:9 we find the following Scripture:

"The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."

How long it has been that a poor, weary, sad, wicked world has waited the coming of our Saviour! Sometimes it seems that He has delayed His coming too long. Sin so abounds, disappointment, disillusionment are on every hand. The nations are at war. The churches have failed. How long, how long before the Saviour will come? But here we learn the reason for His delay. The Lord is not slack concerning His promises. He will keep His promise to come. But the reason He has not come is that His dear heart is hungry for the salvation of multitudes! "He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." Jesus only delays His coming so that we can win souls.

I have heard preachers and Bible teachers speak as if perhaps one soul that I might win or that you might win would fill up the body of Christ and end the plan of God for soul-winning. But they have misinterpreted this Scripture. This Scripture is not talking about one, nor about two, nor about some select number of sinners that are to be saved to "finish the body of Christ." No, this Scripture speaks about "ALL." Jesus is not willing that ANY should perish, but that ALL should come to repentance.

The fires in our hearts burn low. Our compassion becomes dulled. We have no Gethsemane of prayer, no agonizing of intercession. The churches have lost their fire and their vision, God pity us. But let us remember that the fire has not burned low in the heart of Christ! His love is not dulled. He has not given up. He loves all the dying men as truly and as marvelously as ever He loved a sinner. And He is not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. And His agonizing concern over every sinner in the world, that they might be saved, is the only reason for the delay in His coming!

If there is a single teaching in that verse of Scripture that Jesus meant to lay on our hearts it is certainly this: soul-winning should

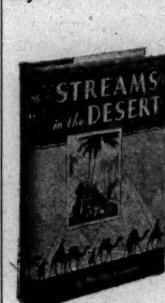
be the chief occupation of the saints of God in these last days and the winning of multitudes is possible and is the desire of the Lord Jesus.

Let us say again, then, that the harvest is white, will be white down through the very end of this age, and the only trouble is that the laborers are few. The trouble is not with the harvest. The trouble is not with the sinners. The trouble is not with the wickedness of the world. No, the trouble is with the reapers. The trouble is with the saints of God. The trouble is with preachers and churches. We do not have revivals because we, the people of God, do not expect them, do not seek them, do not pay the price for them. The harvest is white today and the laborers are few, and that will continue to be the case down through the end of the age.

(This article to be concluded next week.)

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Four Things God Wants You To Know

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

He (God) made to be sin on our behalf; that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

— II Corinthians 5:21 (R.V.)

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life. — John 3:16.

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— II Peter 2:9.

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man, but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that we are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape. — I Corinthians 10:13.

But the Lord is faithful, who shall establish you, and keep you from evil. — II Thessalonians 3:3.

If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. — II Corinthians 5:17.

Your Part — Believe

Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house. — Acts 16:31.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on Me hath everlasting life. — John 6:47.

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life. — John 5:24.

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.

— Romans 10:9.

For there is one God, and ONE mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus. — I Tim. 2:5.

Do It Now

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near. — Isaiah 55:6.

Behold, now is the day of salvation. — II Corinthians 6:2.

How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?

— Hebrews 2:3.

Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. — Matthew 11:28.

Him that cometh to Me I will in no wise cast out. — John 6:37.

For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?

— Mark 8:36.

But as many as received Him (Jesus), to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on His name. — John 1:12.

My Decision

Acknowledging that I am a sinner and in need of a Saviour, and believing that "Christ died for the ungodly," I now receive Him as my own personal Saviour from sin.

Signed

He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. — I John 5:12.

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them. — Ephesians 2:10.

But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. — II Peter 3:18.

(Widely used as a tract. Author unknown.)